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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 10/083,785 | 02/25/2002 | Howard W. DeMoore | 4040-02800 | 5468 |

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EXAMINER

CRENSHAW, MARVIN P

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2854

DATE MAILED: 07/11/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/083,785

Applicant(s)

DEMOORE ET AL.

Examiner

Marvin P. Crenshaw

Art Unit

2854

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 February 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-35 and 37 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 36 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 25 February 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

In claim 36, it refers to being manufactured by the Komori Corp., it is unclear to what structure is being claimed. Appropriate correction is required.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 36 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With respect to claim 36, the prior art does not teach or render obvious the total combination as claimed including means for releasably attaching comprise a take up reel.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1 – 10, 13 - 35 and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by DeMoore et al (5,907,998).

DeMoore et al. teaches an integrated, anti-marking cover (Fig. 3)) for a transfer cylinder in a rotary printing press comprising a flexible jacket (58) covering permanently attached to a cylinder base cover.

With respect to claim 2, the integrated cover (Fig. 3) wherein the flexible jacket covering and cylinder base are aligned and permanently attached along their edges.

With respect to claim 3 and 31, the integrated cover (Fig. 3) wherein the flexible jacket covering and cylinder base cover are permanently attached (Col. 13, lines 1 - 5) along their edges by means for permanently attaching.

With respect to claim 4 and 32, the integrated cover wherein means for permanently attaching include adhesives (See col. 13, lines 1 - 5).

With respect claim 5 and 33, the integrated cover (Fig. 2) wherein the flexible jacket covering is sized such that in areas not permanently attached to the cylinder base cover, a predetermined amount of movement (See col. 10, lines 61 - 65) of the flexible jacket covering is permitted relative to the cylinder base cover.

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With respect to claim 6 and 34, the integrated cover (See col. 10, lines 61 - 65) wherein in the weft direction is about 1/16 to 4 inches (1.6 to 101.6 mm) and movement in the warp direction is about 1/32 to 1 inch (0.8 to 25.4 mm)

With respect to claim 7 - 9, the integrated cover wherein the cylinder base cover is conductive (See Col. 11, lines 37 - 39).

With respect to claim 10, the integrated cover wherein the conductive cylinder base cover further comprises a layer of PTFE (57) adhered to a layer of polyester (See col. 8, lines 59 - 65), the PTFE layer facing the flexible jacket.

With respect to claim 13, the integrated cover further comprises at least one hole (Fig. 9) therein.

With respect to claim 14 - 17, the integrated cover wherein the flexible jacket covering comprises a flexible fabric material having spaced conductive strands (Fig. 14).

With respect to claim 18 - 21, the integrated cover further comprising means (52 and 54) for releasably attaching the integrated cover to the transfer cylinder.

With respect to claim 22, the integrated cover wherein the releasably attaching means including adhesive (59 and 61).

With respect to claim 23 - 26, the integrated cover further comprising means (110) for aligning the integrated cover for attachment to the transfer cylinder.

With respect to claim 27, the integrated cover wherein the alignment means (110) are contrasting alignment stripes in the flexible jacket covering.

With respect to claim 28, the integrated cover wherein the alignment means (See col. 8, lines 7 - 12) further comprise at least one center alignment mark on the gripper edge, the tail edge or both.

With respect to claim 29, the integrated cover wherein the contrasting alignment stripes are the conductive strands (Fig. 14).

With respect to claim 36, the printing press (Fig. 1) has at least four colors (20A, 20B, 20C and 20D).

With respect to claim 37, a method for supporting a processed substrate in a rotary printing press (Fig. 1) comprising supplying an integrated, anti-marking cover (Fig. 3) comprising a flexible jacket covering (58) permanently attached (See col. 13, lines 1 - 5) to a cylinder base cover, releasably attaching (52 and 54) the integrated cover to the transfer cylinder using means for releasably attaching and operating the printing press to process substrates, the substrates being supported by the integrated cover during the operation of the printing press.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DeMoore et al. in view of Okuda et al.

DeMoore et al. teaches all that is claimed in the above rejection as discussed in claims 1 – 10, 13 – 35 and 37, except the integrated cover wherein the PTFE layer has a smooth surface portion.

Okuda et al. teaches a PTFE layer has a smooth (See Col. 6, lines 48 – 56) surface portion. It would have been obvious to modify the integrated cover of DeMoore et al. to have a PTFE layer has a smooth surface portion as taught by Okuda et al. because it has a low coefficient of friction so that the cleaning blade can move smoothly to clean the cover.

Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DeMoore et al. in view of Hannon.

DeMoore et al. teaches all that is claimed in the above rejection as discussed in claims 1 – 10, 13 – 35 and 37, except the integrated cover wherein the PTFE layer has a textured surface.

Hannon teaches a PTFE layer having a textured (See Col. 3, lines 58 – 65) surface. It would have been obvious to modify DeMoore et al. to have an integrated cover wherein the PTFE layer has a textured surface as taught by Hannon because the textured surface is very effective to retain print media thereon and therein.

Conclusion

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marvin P. Crenshaw whose telephone number is (703) 308-0797. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 7:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Hirshfeld can be reached on (703) 305-6619. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-7722 for regular communications and (703) 308-7724 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.



MPC
June 30, 2003



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